

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 128571
ORIGIN ABF-01

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 /014 R

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APPROVED BY A/BF/OAG:JHSOUTHERLAND
EUR/CAN:JHROUSE

-----041405Z 068834 /41

R 032024Z JUN 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

UNCLAS STATE 128571

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AGAO

SUBJECT: GAO SURVEY: "COMPARISON OF U.S. CUSTOMS SERVICE
PROCEDURES FOR INSPECTION, CONTROL, AND RELEASE OF
IMPORTED COMMERCIAL CARGO WITH SELECTED FOREIGN COUNTRIES"

1. THE GAO HAS INFORMED THE DEPARTMENT SUBJECT SURVEY
WILL BEGIN WITH DISCUSSIONS AT CANADIAN EMBASSY IN
WASHINGTON DURING WEEK OF JUNE 13. GAO 4-MAN TEAM WOULD
LIKE TO VISIT OTTAWA JUNE 27 THRU JULY 1, SUBJECT TO
CONCURRENCE OF THE EMBASSY, FOR MEETINGS WITH CANADIAN
GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND TO OBSERVE GOC CUSTOMS ACTIVITIES
AT FIRST HAND.

2. SURVEY OBJECTIVES WILL FOCUS ON FOLLOWING POINTS:

A) PROCEDURES USED TO INSPECT, EXAMINE, CONTROL AND RELEASE
CARGO ENTERING CANADA;

B) METHODS USED TO EVALUATE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THEIR
PROCESSING SYSTEM;

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C) STATISTICAL DATA ON THE SIZE OF THEIR INSPECTION FORCE,
AMOUNT AND TYPE OF CARGO PROCESSED, THE NUMBER OF SEIZURES,
AND THE AMOUNT OF DUTIES AND FINES COLLECTED.

INFORMATION DEVELOPED IN CANADA WILL SUPPLEMENT GAO
ANALYSIS OF US PROCEDURES AND ASSIST IN ASSESSING

ALTERNATIVE METHODS FOR PROCESSING CARGO WHICH WILL BE USED IN ITS REPORT TO CONGRESS. SELECTION OF OTHER COUNTRIES FOR SURVEY VISITS WILL DEPEND ON RESULTS OF CANADIAN TRIP.

3. THE GAO TEAM WOULD LIKE TO MEET WITH THE AMBASSADOR FOR ENTRY INTERVIEW JUNE 27 AND JULY 1 FOR EXIT INTERVIEW. TEAM WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY DESIGNATING AND ADVISING DEPARTMENT OF THE CONTROL OFFICER TO ASSIST IN SCHEDULING APPOINTMENTS WITH APPROPRIATE CANADIAN OFFICIALS. GAO IS AWARE THAT CONTACTS WITH FOREIGN OFFICIALS ARE AT THE DISCRETION OF AND TO BE ARRANGED FOR BY THE EMBASSY AND EMBOFF TO ACCOMPANY IF FEASIBLE. DEPARTMENT CONFIRMS TEAM MEMBERS HAVE CURRENT TOP SECRET CLEARANCES.

4. MEMBERS OF THE GAO TEAM, MESSRS. JERROLD FORD, ROGER HULTGREN, DONALD SCHMIDT, AND ROBERT TRACY, PLAN TO ARRIVE OTTAWA ON JUNE 26 AND REMAIN THROUGH JULY 1. PLEASE RESERVE TWO SINGLES WITH BATH FOR FORD AND HULTGREN FOR THESE DATES. SCHMIDT AND TRACY WILL ARRANGE THEIR OWN ACCOMMODATIONS.

5. IT IS THE DEPARTMENT'S POLICY TO COOPERATE WITH THE GAO AND TO BE AS HELPFUL AS POSSIBLE WITHIN THE GUIDELINES SET FORTH IN 4 FAM 930-934. QUESTIONS OR PROBLEMS ARISING DURING THE COURSE OF THE VISIT SHOULD BE REFERRED TO THE DEPARTMENT. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JHSOUTHERLAND:STP
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770200-0020
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Litigation History:
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Office: ORIGIN ABF
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
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Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
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Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2283141
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GAO SURVEY: "COMPARISON OF U.S. CUSTOMS SERVICE PROCEDURES FOR INSPECTION, CONTROL, AND RELEASE OF IMPORTED COMMERCIAL CARGO WITH SELECTED FOREIGN CO
TAGS: AGAO
To: OTTAWA
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/c0aa4685-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009